

Summary for Consideration of Suggestions Towards a More Effective Legislature

- ❖ Selection of House offices by the membership of the House and committee chairs
- ❖ Reasonable partisanship
- ❖ Substantial budget review
 - Dedicate time and resources
 - Interim oversight
 - Enhanced fiscal staffing
- ❖ Full utilization of standing committees
 - Propose legislation on identified issues of major importance
 - Screeners of legislation
 - Interim studies
 - Identification and study of major state issues
 - Oversight, including APA review and sunset
 - Policy formulation and program development
 - Employ consensus building strategies
 - Hold hearings throughout the state
- ❖ Rule and process changes
 - Advance notice of changes in agenda
 - Advance conference committee notices and meetings
 - Advance availability of committee amendments
 - Schedule changes to provide additional time for deliberation and debate
 - Schedule changes to provide additional time to major state issues
 - Develop time outside of floor debate for commendations, condolences, and introductions
 - Alternative process for consideration of cultural issues
 - Scheduling and advance notice of all bills, and only those bills, that will actually be considered on the House Floor on a given day
- ❖ Membership initiatives
 - Special sessions
 - Use of veto sessions
 - Propose own legislative package
 - Expectation that foster more committee and floor deliberation and debate
 - Involvement in governor's package
- ❖ Ethics changes
 - Lobbyist disclosure
 - House regulation regarding ethical standards

❖ Member education

- New member orientation
- Issues conferences
- Techniques in consensus building and compromise
- Importance of civility and respect
- Education on ethics issues
- Importance of institution; importance of strong and effective legislature
- Mentoring

❖ Staffing

- Enhanced Fiscal staffing
- District office orientation
- General staff training on effective interims
- Cooperative partisan staffing
- Providing policy staff on major state issues

❖ Facilities

- Create additional space
- Upgrade electronics in committee rooms and chamber

❖ Enhance technology

- Electronic availability of additional committee information
- Broadcasting of remote site legislative hearings
- Personalized reporting to the end user
- Automatic notification system
- Wireless internet connection

❖ Citizenry involvement

- Enhanced civic education
- Public opinion and public relations